

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently amended) A backsplash for protecting a first surface adjacent a work surface substantially perpendicular to the first surface, the backsplash comprising:  
a layer of tiles having a front surface exposed and resistant to byproducts of work performed on the work surface when the backsplash is in a mounted position upon the first surface, the layer of tiles coupled together for installation and removal from the first surface as a single integral unit;  
a first mount on a rear of the backsplash; and  
a second mount adapted to be coupled to the first surface;  
the first mount ~~a mount positioned to~~ releasably and removably engagable with the second mount  
for removably mounting couple the backsplash to the first surface in at least one location between the backsplash and the first surface, the first and second mounts ~~mount~~ retaining the layer of tiles in a substantially perpendicular relationship with respect to the work surface when the backsplash is in the mounted position upon the first surface.
2. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 1, further comprising a support to which the layer of tiles are mounted.
3. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 2, further comprising a frame shaped to receive the support.
4. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 2, wherein the support is a substantially flat panel.
5. (Withdrawn) The backsplash of claim 2, wherein the support defines a groove therein for receiving the mount in recessed relationship with a rear surface of the backsplash.
6. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 1, further comprising a frame shaped to receive the layer of tiles.
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The backsplash of claim 1 ~~claim 7~~, wherein the first and second mounts are shaped to maintain at least part of the backsplash against the first surface.
9. (Currently amended) The backsplash of claim 1 ~~claim 7~~, wherein the first and second mounts are releasably coupled to one another by at least one projection on one of the first and second mounts received within an aperture in another of the first and second mounts.
10. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 9, wherein the first and second mounts are shaped to draw the backsplash toward the first surface as the first and second mounts are coupled together.
11. (Currently amended) The backsplash of claim 1 ~~claim 7~~, wherein the first and second mounts are releasably coupled to one another by an upturned flange on one of the first and second mounts releasably engaged with a downturned flange in another of the first and second mounts.
12. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 11, wherein the first and second mounts are shaped to draw the backsplash toward the first surface as the first and second mounts are coupled together.
13. (Withdrawn) The backsplash of claim 12, wherein at least one of the upturned and downturned flanges is has an arcuate surface engaged with a surface of another of the upturned and downturned surface as the first and second mounts are coupled together.
14. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 1, wherein the tiles are resistant to at least one of heat and fluid.
15. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 1, wherein the backsplash is dimensioned to be received between the work surface and a range hood located above the work surface.

16. (Currently amended) A backsplash for protecting a first surface adjacent a work surface substantially perpendicular to the first surface, the backsplash comprising:

a layer of protective material having a front surface exposed and resistant to byproducts of work performed on the work surface when the backsplash is in a mounted position upon the first surface;

a first mount recessed within ~~on~~ a rear of the backsplash; and

a second mount adapted to be coupled to the first surface, the first mount releasably coupled to the second mount to removably support the layer of protective material upon the first surface in an orientation substantially perpendicular to the work surface,

wherein the first and second mounts are shaped to retain the layer of protective material against the first surface when the first mount is coupled to the second mount.

17. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 16, wherein the first and second mounts are shaped to draw the layer of protective material toward the first surface as the first mount is coupled to the second mount.

18. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 16, further comprising a support upon which the layer of protective material is mounted.

19. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 18, further comprising a frame shaped to receive the support.

20. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 16, wherein the layer of protective material comprises a layer of tiles.

21. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 16, further comprising a frame shaped to receive the layer of protective material.

22. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 16, wherein one of the first and second mounts comprises an upturned flange releasably engageable with a downturned flange of another of the first and second mounts.

23. (Previously presented) The backsplash of claim 22, wherein the first and second mounts are shaped to draw the backsplash toward the first surface as the first and second mounts are coupled together.

24. (Previously presented) The backplash of claim 16, wherein one of the first and second mounts comprises a projection releasably engageable within an aperture in another of the first and second mounts.

25. (Previously presented) The backplash of claim 24, wherein the first and second mounts are shaped to draw the backplash toward the first surface as the first and second mounts are coupled together.

26. (Withdrawn) The backplash of claim 24, wherein the projection has a first surface engaged with a second surface at least partially defining an edge of the aperture as the first and second mounts are coupled together, at least one of the one of the first and second surfaces having an arcuate shape.

27. (Previously presented) A method of releasably coupling a backsplash to a first surface adjacent a work surface substantially perpendicular to the first surface, the method comprising:
- mounting a first mount to the first surface;
  - releasably coupling a second mount on the back of the backsplash to the first mount;
  - drawing the backsplash to a substantially flush position against the first surface by coupling the second mount to the first mount; and
  - releasably supporting the backsplash upon the first mount in a substantially perpendicular orientation with respect to the work surface.
28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the backsplash comprises a layer of protective material.
29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the protective material comprises a layer of tiles.
30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the layer of tiles is resistant to at least one of heat and fluid.
31. (Previously presented) The method claim 27, further comprising positioning the backsplash in a position between the work surface and a range hood located above the work surface.
32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein releasably coupling the second mount to the first mount includes releasably engaging an upturned flange of one of the first and second mounts with a downturned flange of another of the first and second mounts.
33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein releasably coupling the second mount to the first mount includes releasably engaging a projection of one of the first and second mounts within an aperture in another of the first and second mounts.
34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein drawing the backsplash includes camming an arcuate surface of one of the first and second mounts against a surface of another of the first and second mounts.